

## Before the Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

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In the Matter of	)	
Amendment of Section 73.622(b) Table of Allotments, Digital Television Broadcast Stations. (Tyler, Texas)	) ) )	MM Docket No. 01-244 RM-10234
In the Matter of	)	
Amendment of Section 73.622(b)	ý	MM Docket No. 01-245
Table of Allotments,	)	RM-10235
Digital Television Broadcast Stations.	)	
(Lufkin, Texas)	)	

To: The Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau

## PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER DENYING PETITION FOR STAY

International Broadcasting Network ("IBN") hereby petitions **for** reconsideration of the Order Denying Petition for Stay ("Order") adopted *on* December 13,2002, and released on December 20,2002, in the above-captioned consolidated proceedings. In support of this petition, IBN respectfully states the following:

I.

This petition is timely filed. The thirty-day deadline fell on January 19, 2003, which was Sunday. Today, January 20,2003, is a federal holiday. Accordingly, as

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In denying IBN's request for a stay, the Commission erroneously applied an inappropriate standard. IBN's request for a stay was not submitted to a federal court but to the designated authority at the Commission. Section 1.102(b)(2) of the Commission's Rules provides that "the designated authority may in its discretion stay the effect of its action pending disposition of the petition for reconsideration." The power to issue a stay is dependent upon only one requirement: a petition for reconsideration must have been filed. In these proceedings, that one requirement was met when IBN filed its petition for reconsideration on November 8, 2002.

Ш.

There is a compelling reason favoring grant of a stay. It is essential to preserve the integrity of a decision yet to be rendered by the Commission's designated authority in these pending proceedings. Under Section 1.102(a)(2) of the Rules, which applies to decisions of a commissioner or a panel of commissioners, a stay would have been automatic upon the filing of a petition for reconsideration. Whether under Section 1.102(a)(2) or Section 1.102(b)(2), the need to preserve the integrity of the decision yet to be rendered is of paramount importance and must not be restricted by a series of requirements that has no basis in the Rules.

IV.

Paragraph 4 of the Order states as fact a number of issues that are in dispute. The

petition for reconsideration IBN filed on November 8,2002, is still pending. The Order improperly prejudged factual and legal issues which must be lawfully and objectively considered in response to the pending petition **for** reconsideration.

V.

show that the substitution of channels granted by the Commission in response to the request of Civic License Holding Company, Inc. ("Civic") was contrary to the public interest. Such a review will also show that Civic and CivCo, Inc. ("CivCo") provided not a scintilla of evidence to support their false boilerplate claims. Even if IBN had not filed comments opposing the substitution of channels, the comments of all third parties and the petitions of thousands of persons residing within the service areas of KLTV and KTRE would alone be more than a sufficient basis for determining that the substitution was not in the public interest. Indeed, on the basis of the entire record in these proceedings, the Commission can reach no other conclusion than that the substitution of channels was contrary to the public interest and should not have been granted.

VI.

For the reasons stated in the immediately preceding paragraph, IBN is likely to prevail on the merits. Moreover, the loss of channels, which will necessarily result from the substitution, constitutes irreparable harm to IBN and to the public which relies on IBN's stations. Furthermore, neither Civic nor CivCo has shown that the stay would harm it or any other party. In the absence of that showing, it must be **presumed** that a stay would be harmless. Finally, a stay would serve the public interest by preserving the

integrity of the decision yet to be rendered by the Commission's designated authority.

Thus, even though the four criteria set forth in paragraph 3 of the Order are inapplicable, they have nevertheless been satisfied.

VII.

For all of the foregoing reasons, and for all of the reasons set forth in IBN's previous filings, IBN respectfully urges that the aforementioned Order be reconsidered and that the stay requested by IBN be promptly issued

Respectfully submitted,

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING NETWORK

By its President

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January 20,2003

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Paul J. Broyles, hereby certify that on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2003 a copy of the foregoing PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER DENYING PETITION FOR STAY has been served by first-class mail, postage prepaid, upon the following:

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